

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 22, 24, 28, and 30, which are independent, are hereby amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed, and specifically at pages 27-31, 34-36, and 39-42 and Figures 5-7, 12-13, and 18-19. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over European Patent Application No. 0717346 to Takiguchi et al. (hereinafter, merely "Takiguchi") in view of U.S. Patent 6,002,401 to Baker (hereinafter, merely "Baker") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,392,670 to Takeuchi et al. (hereinafter, merely "Takeuchi").

As understood by Applicants, Takiguchi relates to relates to a hierarchical data display method for retrieving and displaying data from a data base, file system, or the like in

which a plurality of data items are managed hierarchically, and to a browser system. More particularly, Takiguchi relates to a time-series data display method for displaying a plurality of data items that are managed using associated dates, and to an information processing system for realizing the method. Takiguchi also relates to an image editing method and system to be implemented in drawing software for handling images or a data base system.

As understood by Applicants, Baker relates to a pictorial user interface for accessing information in an electronic file system which provides a pictorial image which is linked to a file directory and which identifies the file directory.

As understood by Applicants, Takeuchi relates to a device setup support system and method.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“... means for displaying a menu of recommended channels, said recommended channels selected based on high past frequencies of selection;

means for displaying a menu of categories, said categories containing programs classified into said categories based on program information;

means for displaying a menu of media, said menu of media representing contents of a plurality of recording/reproducing media;”(Emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully submit that nothing has been found in Takiguchi, Baker, or Takeuchi that would teach or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, neither Takiguchi, Baker, nor Takeuchi, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest means for displaying a menu of recommended channels, said recommended channels selected based on high past frequencies of selection. Additionally, the applied combination fails to teach or suggest means for displaying a menu of categories, said categories containing programs classified into said categories based on program information. Finally, the cited

references fail to disclose or suggest means for displaying a menu of media, said menu of media representing contents of a plurality of recording/reproducing media, all as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable.

Claims 3, 7, 9, 22, 24, 28, and 30 are similar, or somewhat similar, in scope to claim 1, and are therefore patentable for similar, or somewhat similar, reasons.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the references providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance
and request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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